

JAMES MADISON HIGH SCHOOL

Orchestra Syllabus

James Madison High School is committed to creating an equitable and culturally responsive school where every student's identity, strengths, and talents are appreciated and cultivated.

[Madison HS's Community](#) - [General Course and Teacher Information](#) - [Course Materials](#)
[Traditional Rolling Gradebook](#) - [Grading](#) - [Homework](#)
[Late Assignments/Assessments](#) - [Make-up Work for Absences](#) - [FCPSOn at JMHS](#)
[Religious Holiday Observances](#) - [Additional Course Considerations](#) - [Honor Code](#)

Our Community Coming Together

As we welcome students back to a slightly larger James Madison HS, our focus this year will be to reestablish relationships and connections across the school community. To accomplish this, Madison staff and Performing Arts Department are dedicated to focusing on the essential learnings, skills, and competencies that students need in order to be creative and resilient global citizens. The Performing Arts Department have collaborated and will continue to collaborate to create learning opportunities that provide a deeper learning experience for our students.

General Information

- **Contact Information:** Erin Eberly, egeberly@fcps.edu
- **Course Name:** Orchestra
- **Calendar and Assignment Information:** All due dates for major assignments will be posted in our Schoology course calendar. All grades will be posted in the Student Information System (SIS) and accessible through StudentVue and ParentVue. Students and parents are encouraged to frequently monitor their Schoology calendars and grades in SIS StudentVue to set short and long-term goals.
- **Office Hours:** Upon Request
- **Online Resources:** Course materials and resources can be found in Schoology.

Materials

Students are expected to bring their assigned laptop each day fully charged. Additionally, it is recommended that students have a pair of earphones or earbuds they can access during the day. **We are unable to provide loaners for forgotten laptops, earphones, or chargers.** Additional course materials for this course include:

- Pencil and eraser
- Instrument and accessories

Traditional Rolling Gradebook

There are two categories of grading: Assessment (80% of overall grade) and Practice (20% of overall grade) or Assessment (100% of overall grade).

- **Assessment:**

- The goal of assessments is to evaluate a student's level of mastery of essential course skills/content and POG skills at key inflection points and/or endpoints during the course.
- Assessment is defined as a culminating learning experience (i.e. project, presentation, exhibition, test, etc.).

- **Practice:**

- The goal of practice is to evaluate a student's progress toward mastery of essential course content, essential skills and POG skills.
- For a student to be eligible for reassessment, they must complete the practice(s) for that assessment.
 - Practice is defined as Homework, Classwork, and Quizzes
 - Homework counts for no more than 10% of a student's final grade
 - Teachers will use practices as evidence to:
 - Provide ongoing feedback to students
 - Identify areas of need and to inform instructional decisions
 - Students will use practices to:
 - Identify progress towards mastery and target skills that need more practice
 - Set goals and advocate for their learning

Grade Calculation: Student grades should reflect progress towards mastery.

- Practice grades will be recorded in SIS to show student progress towards mastery of content or skill as a unit progress towards a culminating assessment/learning experience.
- If the assessment mark is higher than a student's practice attempts, the higher mark will replace lower practice attempts.
- If a student's assessment mark is lower than their practice marks, the practice marks will remain and the student will have the opportunity to reassess part or all (if necessary) of the culminating assessment/learning experience per reassessment guidelines.
- The student's practice and assessment attempts will average across the entire year.
- Practice grades will be in the gradebook to communicate progress until there is an Assessment to demonstrate mastery.
- Once a unit is completed within the late work guidelines, no practice marks will be replaced.

Grading

- **Grading Timeline:** Grades will be posted within seven school days after the due date with the understanding that major assessments may require additional time to ensure quality feedback.
- **Grading Scales:**
 - Individual assignment grades communicate a student's progress towards mastery and use whole letter grades with the highest value in the scale being 4.0 and the lowest value being 0.
 - Grades posted at the end of the FCPS quarterly cycle are a snapshot of a student's level of mastery at that time. In a rolling gradebook these snapshots do not average together. Instead, each snapshot represents the cumulative grade the student has in the course at that specific moment in time. These quarterly snapshots and the end-of-year course grades will be calculated within the SIS gradebook and fall within the 4.0 scale as outlined below. (i.e., An A- will fall within the range of 3.4-3.7)

Learning	Definition	Individual Assignment Marks	Quarterly & Final Course Grade Calculations (SIS)
Mastery	Designates the status of a student who consistently demonstrates accurate and complete knowledge of content and skills specified in the FCPS Program of Studies (POS) and applies that knowledge to solve problems in a variety of settings.	A 4.0	A 3.8-4.0
			A- 3.4-3.7
Approaching Mastery	Designates the status of a student who demonstrates knowledge of content and skills specified in the FCPS POS, with some improvement needed in accuracy and/or consistency in performance, applying that knowledge to solve problems in a variety of settings.	B 3.0	B+ 3.1-3.3
			B 2.8-3.0
			B- 2.4-2.7
Proficient	Designates the status of a student who demonstrates knowledge of basic content and skills specified in the FCPS POS, but requires additional practice and instructional experiences to acquire skills necessary to solve problems.	C 2.0	C+ 2.1-2.3
			C 1.8-2.0
			C- 1.4-1.7
Approaching Proficiency	Designates the status of a student who needs significant practice and instructional experiences to acquire the knowledge of basic content and skills specified in the FCPS POS necessary to solve problems. As a final mark, it is not necessarily sufficient to meet the prerequisite requirements	D 1.0	D+ 1.1-1.3
			D 0.8-1.0
Not Proficient	Designates the status of a student who has not demonstrated the basic knowledge of content and/or skills specified in the FCPS POS and requires additional practice and instructional experiences in order to succeed.	F 0.0	F 0.0-0.7

- **SIS Comment Codes:** The following comments will be used in SIS to communicate exemptions, reassessments, and missing work:
 - Absent (ABS) (no point value)
 - Excused (EXC) from the assignment (no point value)
 - Late (La)
 - Retake grade (RTG)
 - Replaced Grade (RG)
 - Submitted for grading (SFG) used for long-term projects
 - Not turned in (NTI) (recorded as a zero "0")

Homework

Homework will serve a positive purpose for learning and support the instructional program. Homework will be a vehicle through which students practice, apply, and/or elaborate on content that they are currently learning. It may also be used as preparation for learning new content.

Homework assignments will be relevant to content being studied with an emphasis on quality rather than quantity. Homework will focus on understanding content in greater depth and complexity and not on increased time commitments.

Per FCPS regulation, homework is not to exceed 30 minutes per class block. Reading assignments are considered part of the homework load. Long-term projects may require additional time and the teacher will adjust daily homework assignments accordingly.

Late Assignments/Assessments

Late work will be accepted to document learning/mastery. Due dates can be found in the course calendar in Schoology. Students should communicate with teachers about the need for flexibility regarding specific assignments in advance of due dates. Teachers and students will work together to determine a reasonable extension.

In a rolling gradebook, students will be afforded multiple opportunities to demonstrate mastery. Students should work with their teacher to develop a plan to get feedback and support prior to assessments. Late practice and assessments must be completed within two weeks after the due date.

If a student misses an assessment or continues to have outstanding practice or assessments, and parent contact has been made, an "NTI" code (valued at an F) may be entered in the gradebook.

Make-up Work for Absences

Students are fully responsible for completing any missed assignments. Each day of absence affords at least one school day of makeup work opportunity. The period of time allowed to make up work may be extended at the discretion of the teacher/team.

FCPSOn at JMHS

FCPSOn provides equitable access to meaningful learning experiences and technology that supports student learning needs and will prepare them for the demands of the future. Each student will have the opportunity to use a school-issued laptop both at school and home and experience high quality instruction and learning that incorporates digital tools in productive ways. An incredible responsibility comes with a digital transformation. It includes teaching as well as modeling digital citizenship, so our students adopt safe, smart, and responsible online practices. It also means empowering students to make healthy, balanced choices regarding their device usage. FCPSOn reinforces these practices within the learning process and beyond. School-issued devices will be updated and maintained by FCPS.

Religious Holiday Observances

Regulation 2234 has been revised regarding Religious and Cultural Observance Days in order to prioritize instruction while honoring the religious and cultural observances which have not been designated as school holidays. Changes to the regulation include:

- New material **can be introduced** on religious and cultural observance days provided that:
 - Content is made accessible in Schoology
 - Teachers connect with absent students
- Graded assignments or activities may occur provided that there are opportunities for students who are absent to make up the assignment or activity.
- Details are provided for days on which an observance begins at sundown.

Additional Course Considerations

- **May Testing Window - Expectations for Students.** May is traditionally a month of testing and impacts the pace of instruction across our school community. Formal instruction will continue until the beginning of June and final course reflections will be due the first week of June. Teachers will communicate specific course details for the end of the year by May 1st. Families are highly encouraged to minimize the amount of time students are out of the building. **For classes that have mixed level students (i.e., 11th and 12th graders), instruction and assessing will continue throughout the month of May.**
- **Final Exam:** There will be no final exam in this course. All students will participate in the MAD WINGS experience for their grade level.
- **MAD WINGS:** From freshman to senior year, students create and add to a WINGS Portfolio which contains artifacts of their learning and growth. Students reflect on their growth over the year in Course Reflections. At the end of each year, students present their growth and portfolio in a MAD WINGS Presentation to school staff, peers, parents, and community guests. All students are expected to participate in the MAD WINGS experience and will receive special recognition at graduation upon completion. For detailed information on the MAD WINGS experience, please visit the Madison website and search WINGS.

What is a “MAD WINGS Presentation”? What does it entail?

9th & 10th	WINGS Student-led conference	Students have a conversation with school staff, family, and/or community members about their portfolios and how they have grown over the year. Students use their class reflections for their conference.
11th	WINGS Portfolio Review	Students review their growth from freshman through junior year, identify a possible path for their Senior WINGS Experience and present their portfolio to counselors, parents, and school staff.
12th	Senior WINGS Presentation	Students give a presentation on their WINGS Portfolio and/or their Senior WINGS Experience (internship, passion project or final portfolio presentation) to school staff, family, and community members.

SENIOR WINGS EXPERIENCE: This is a 30-40 hour internship/community service opportunity for seniors at the end of the school year. Students have an option to explore career and personal interests through one of the following experiences: Town of Vienna or Vienna Business Association internship; Identify and coordinate one's own internship experience; or develop a personal business or personal passion project. To be eligible for the program seniors must apply and will receive notification that their application has been accepted. Students will receive resources about the program application through their English classes. Applications will begin in January and be finalized prior to spring break. Approved students will complete a Wings Contract that requires a parent signature before the internship begins.

- **Honors/AP Courses**

- For students who pass this AP/HNs course, an additional 1.0/.5 quality point will be added to the quality point value assigned to the final grade for purposes of calculating **GPA only**. For example, a final grade of A in this course shall receive 5.0 quality points. No additional weight will be assigned to an F mark.
- Students enrolled in AP courses are strongly encouraged to take the culminating external examination associated with the course. These standardized examinations are designed to measure content and skill mastery and a successful score may earn credit and advanced placement in college. Information for students who choose not to participate in an AP exam for a course in which they are currently enrolled will be provided later in the school year.
- **Advanced Placement Test Opt Out:** Students enrolled in an Advanced Placement course ("AP") are expected to sit for the exam in May. Students will have the opportunity to opt out of the exam. (Details and timelines will be distributed by Student Services)

Honor Code

JMHS Honor Statement: *Learning is about the process, not necessarily the outcome. I made my best individual effort and I have not given nor received any unauthorized assistance on this assignment. All of the work presented is my own.*

- **Infraction process:**
 - Teacher determines that a student may have violated the honor code policy.
 - An administrator will decide if the infraction constitutes an honor code warning or violation.
 - Consequences are given for a violation of the honor code policy.
- **Additional Information:** <https://madisonhs.fcps.edu/about/honor-code>

NOTE: Because students will have multiple opportunities to demonstrate mastery AND Per FCPS policy, James Madison High School does not award extra points/extra credit for any assignments or assessments.